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SOME REMARKS

ON

DR. KENNEDY'S

CRITICAL EXAMINATION

OF THE

COMPLETE LATIN GRAMMAR

BY

JOHN WILLIAM DONALDSON, D.D.

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XOP. ὡς τεθνήξων ἴσθι νυνί. ΔΙ. δὴ ξομάρ' ὑμᾶς ἐγώ·
ἀνταποκτενῶ γὰρ ὑμῶν τῶν φίλων τοὺς φιλτάτους·
ὥς ἔχω γ' ὑμῶν ὁμήρους, οὓς ἀποσφάξω λαβίων.

ARISTOPH. *Ach.* 325—8.

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REMARKS.

IN the preface to the Latin Grammar which I published at the beginning of this year, I thought it necessary to state, as my chief reason for undertaking the compilation of a work of such humble usefulness, that I was unable to find any elementary treatise on the Latin language which I could, with perfect confidence and satisfaction, place in the hands of my younger pupils. If I had made no such statement, it would have been taken for granted that I wished and hoped to produce a work, in some respects at least, better than all its predecessors; and, in any case, the public might have been left to judge whether I had succeeded or not. It seems, however, that these obvious considerations have not occurred to one of the most eminent of those living authors of Latin Grammars with whom I have presumed to enter into rivalry. Dr. Kennedy, of Shrewsbury, is not content that others should be left to decide between his book and mine—that impartial critics should discover his merits and my faults. Forgetting that he is personally interested in the question, he has hastily assumed the functions of a judge, and has issued from the press an elaborate *Critical Examination of Dr. Donaldson's Complete Latin Grammar*, for the avowed purpose of comparing my publication with his own. By taking this step, he has not only invited, but compelled me to justify, as far as he is concerned, the censure which I have passed on all previous Latin Grammars, and to point out the improvements which I have endeavoured to introduce. I hate controversy, but I trust I shall never say or do what I shall not be prepared to defend if necessary; and Dr. Kennedy must blame himself, not me, if the results of his *Critical Examination* should prove that he has undertaken a warfare without sitting down first and counting the cost.

The pamphlet which I am about to answer, is in the form of a courteous letter to me. I have avoided an epistolary address, not because I do not respond in the fullest manner to the kind feelings of which Dr. Kennedy's letter contains many indications, but because I fear that my counter-criticisms, if addressed to him, might appear, as some of his remarks appear to me, rather too

magisterial and didactic. In expressing my opinions, I wish to recollect that their correctness or value must be estimated by those who are not parties to this little controversy.

In the first place, I cannot but be surprised that Dr. Kennedy, of all persons in the world, should object, as he seems to do, to my general strictures on previous Latin Grammars. In the preface to his own *Progressive Latin Grammar*, he had made remarks very similar to mine, not on Grammars in general, but on his immediate predecessor and competitor, Dr. Wordsworth. In *King Edward the Sixth's Latin Grammar*, he 'traced the hand of a sound and accomplished scholar:' I acknowledged 'much that is scholarlike and valuable' in many of my predecessors. He thought that Dr. Wordsworth's alterations went 'too far in some respects, and not far enough in others:' I declared that previous Latin Grammars all erred 'either in excess or defect.' He complained of 'a defectively arranged syntax:' I have more generally denounced 'a faulty arrangement of the materials.' In short, with the exception of those 'grave mistakes both of principle and of detail,' and 'the time-honoured inaccuracies,' which I profess to have found in previous Latin Grammars, my general censure is different in no respect from that which Dr. Kennedy pronounced upon a book which was published immediately before his own, and which he specially undertook to supersede. But he is not contented with having exercised, on the first appearance of his Grammar, the privilege of censorship which he would refuse to me: he wishes to reign *solus sine rivali*; and has undertaken, in a pamphlet of 128 octavo pages, to show, not only that he surpassed his forerunners, but that he remains unsurpassed by me. As I never brought my little book into any direct comparison with his Grammar, I might have been spared the office of vindicating my own performance at his expense—but, *vous l'avez voulu, vous l'avez voulu, George Dandin, vous l'avez voulu!*

There is another complaint on the part of Dr. Kennedy, of which I must dispose at starting. He says (p. 5) 'it is a strange oversight, and one hardly fair to me, that you should have referred to a book now out of print (*i. e.* his *Progressive Latin Grammar*), and not also to that which the facts of the case entitle me to call my established School-Grammar.' To this complaint I answer, that, on looking into his *Elementary Latin Grammar*, of which until the last few days I did not myself

possess a copy, I thought it so completely included in the *Progressive Latin Grammar*, that what was true of the greater, would be true, *à fortiori*, of the less. And I maintain, that the errors which Dr. Kennedy has repeated in the sixth edition now before me (which is, I believe, his seventh revision of the subject), deserve to be considered as much more reprehensible than any slips which he might have made on his first appearance as a Latin grammarian. So that the counter-criticism, to which he challenges me, will fall much more heavily than the oblique and general censure of my preface, which seemed to be limited to his original work, as it was in 1844. The fact is, that I did not wish to interfere with Dr. Kennedy's publications, farther than was necessary to acknowledge my obligations to him and to include him in the general expression of my dissatisfaction.

Dr. Kennedy's pamphlet invites me to undertake the establishment of two propositions :

(1.) That the strictures in my preface, so far as he is concerned in them, are justifiable by the facts ;

(2.) That my Latin Grammar is not amenable to the censure which he has sought to transfer from himself to me.

He is entitled, if he chooses, to call upon me for a demonstration of the first of these propositions ; and he has given me an excuse for saying as much or as little as I please about the merits or demerits of my own work. But I must remind him that the truth of the censures in my preface, so far as he is concerned, is in no way dependent on his good or ill success in disparaging my book. I have said, at the end of my preface, that 'it is much easier to perceive the imperfections of existing works than to realize the idea of desiderated excellence.' And it may be the case that both he and I have more skill in discovering faults than in avoiding them ; that we can contrive to damage one another, without gaining anything by the process. Be this as it may, I shall frankly accept his challenge.

The only statements in my preface which apply to Dr. Kennedy as a representative of those who have recently written on the subject of Latin grammar in this country, are the following :—

P. vii. l. 1. (a.) ' Latin scholarship is not flourishing in England.'

P. viii. l. 9. (b.) ' Latin prose composition is much neglected.'

P. vii. l. 14. (c.) ' I am not acquainted with any Latin

Grammar, whether old or new, which does not exhibit a faulty arrangement of the materials, and which is not deformed, more or less, by grave mistakes both of principle and of detail.' (This is repeated in effect at the end of the preface.)

P. vii. l. 19. (*d.*) 'Every introduction to the study of Latin which has fallen in my way, errs either in excess or defect—either contains what is superfluous, or omits what is indispensable to the young learner.'

On the first two of these statements of opinion Dr. Kennedy does not request me to offer any evidence or arguments. I will therefore only say, that I remember some years ago that the *Examiner*, or some other paper, indulged in a hearty ridicule of the following title-page, which was considered as a conclusive proof that English schoolmasters cannot write a simple sentence in Latin without making some portentous blunder: GRÆCÆ GRAMMATICÆ INSTITUTIO PRIMA. *Rudimentis Etonensibus quantum potuit immutatis Syntaxin de suo addidit* BENJAMIN HALL KENNEDY, S.T.P. Had I found Dr. Kennedy's *quantulum potuit* in an exercise by one of my boys, I should have told him that although *quantulum visum est* is good Latin, *quantulum potuit* is not only bad Latin, but nonsense. As, however, this sentence has been printed by a professed grammarian, who assumes the right of criticizing his predecessors and contemporaries, I will only remark, that it is one of many proofs that Latin scholarship is not flourishing in England. I do not wish to be hypercritical; but as Dr. Kennedy has favoured me with what he imagines to be an improvement on one of my Latin rules, I am obliged to tell him that his Latinity is neither perspicuous nor elegant. Instead of my rule 128, vii. (*b*) p. 111, he would write, by way of making it clearer (p. 88):—

Locum 'ubi,' 'unde,' 'quo'

Gubernat Præpositio;

Quæ absit his

Vocabulis, &c.

To say nothing of investing a preposition with the government of a place, like Sancho at Barataria, I am bound to conclude that in the third line Dr. Kennedy has either made the boyish confusion between the subjunctive mood and the direct statement of permission, against which I have cautioned my readers in 172, (1); or that he has violated the Latin idiom by

introducing a prohibition into the relative sentence. But enough of this. I will not fly my kite at such small game as the *jejuna scrupulositas* of Dr. Kennedy's Latin style.

The main question, in the discussion which Dr. Kennedy has provoked, is how far his Grammar is implicated in the charges which I have brought against my predecessors in general—how far it exhibits a faulty arrangement of the materials, how far it is deformed by grave errors of principle and detail, how far it contains what is superfluous, or omits what is indispensable to the young learner.

If I cannot show this, I am deprived of my reason for writing a new book; and instead of taking the trouble which I have imposed upon myself, and which I would gladly have avoided, I might have gratified Dr. Kennedy and his publishers by adding Bury School to the number of those which use his Grammar.

A faulty arrangement was my greatest complaint of previously existing manuals. I could, with the pen or by directions to the under masters, correct the special errors of any book employed in the lower forms; but if the arrangement of a grammar is unscientific and calculated to mislead, from the first page to the last, I can do nothing with it; and if all books are more or less liable to this charge, I have no alternative but to teach orally or to write a new book for my boys. Now I cannot use Dr. Kennedy's Grammar, because he has arranged the nouns in five declensions, resting upon no principle, and contradicting, at the outset, all that I shall have to teach my boys afterwards, if I wish them to become sound grammarians, either in Greek or Latin. It matters not that my arrangement involves principles which I have discovered myself. Those principles will be found argued out and demonstrably established in larger works of mine, and I can only teach according to what I believe to be true. And as I know, by my own experience as a teacher, that 'the memory of boys is as tenacious of rational explanations as of arbitrary rules' (*Preface to the Complete Greek Grammar*, p. viii.), I shall not, to please Dr. Kennedy, deal with my pupils as parrots, when I might instruct them as reasonable beings.

Again, I cannot use Dr. Kennedy's Grammar, because, like most others, it exhibits the verbs in a blundering and self-contradictory order. For, although he is aware that *audio* is a contracted verb as well as *amo* and *moveo* (see his *Progressive Grammar*, Part III., p. 29, 111.) and that consonant verbs,

those which have *u* for their characteristic, and some in *-i*, are uncontracted, he still places them in an order which is calculated to prevent boys from coming to the true conclusion. What would he say to a Greek Grammar which arranged the conjugations thus:—I. τιμάω II. φιλέω. III. τύπτω. IV. δηλόω? His own *Elementary Greek Grammar*, in which the consonant verbs are kept separate from the vowel-verbs, and the former arranged, like mine, in both the Latin and Greek Grammars, according to the characteristic letters, is a sufficient condemnation of the old fashioned, superannuated arrangement, or rather jumble, which he has retained in his Latin Grammar.

Lastly, I cannot use Dr. Kennedy's Grammar, because neither his *Syntaxis Minor*, nor his *Sententiarum Constructio*, is so arranged as to give a young student any coherent or even simple notions of the use of predicates; because it is in fact a mere farrago of statements, some true, and others inaccurate; some belonging to Grammar, others to Lexicography; some generally, others exceptionably valid, without one pervading principle of logical analysis. A boy might perhaps learn Latin in spite of Dr. Kennedy's Accidence; but if he spent much time about the Syntax of this Grammar, he would come with great disadvantages to the higher study of either Greek or Latin Construction.

So much for Dr. Kennedy's 'faulty arrangement.' I now turn to his 'grave errors of principle and detail.' Some of the former are necessarily involved in his faults of arrangement. For the sake of brevity, I will leave these to be discovered, as they will be discovered, by all who agree with me in condemning the rationale of declensions and conjugations, which Dr. Kennedy has adopted or retained.

It is an error of principle to class together *hic*, *ille*, and *is* (p. 21). If a boy is to write Latin, one of his first duties is to understand the difference between the *indicative* pronouns *hic*, *iste*, *ille*, (with the last of which, I have, for the first time, identified *alius*,) and the *distinctive* pronouns *is*, *idem*, and *ipse*. All pronouns are *demonstrative*, as I have proved in the *New Cratylus*; and it is erroneous to restrict this term to one class, and to include in this one class the very words which most require discrimination.

It is an error of principle to say: *Ablativus est casus qui circumstantia* (in the *Progressive Grammar*, *circumstantias*) *actionis definit* (§ 143), and a similar error of principle deforms all Dr. Kennedy's definitions of the cases. Although in the Latin lan-

guage, as I have shown, idiomatic usage has introduced considerable confusion in the genitive, ablative, and dative; it is not the less true that these cases had an original meaning, that this original meaning is still retained in many important instances, and that the explanation of the prepositions and of all the usual employments of the oblique cases is more easily and more truly given by referring to the simple and original meaning, than by inventing such phrases as Dr. Kennedy has introduced. Is the place from which I start on a journey ‘a *circumstance* of the action?’ Are the instrument and the agent both ‘*circumstances* of the action?’ Is the danger from which I liberate my friend ‘a *circumstance* of the action?’ Just as bad is Dr. Kennedy’s definition of the dative: *Dativus est casus remotioris objecti* (§ 120). As the dative is the most adverbial of all the cases, it connects itself most closely with the verb, as a secondary predicate; and it is very amusing that Dr. Kennedy’s first example of its use should be ‘non solum *nobis* divites esse volumus.’ The Shrewsbury boys will of course conclude that there must be some fallacy in the assertion: *proximus sum egomet mihi*. The true definition of the dative is that which I have given in my Greek Grammar (§ 455): ‘The dative signifies that the object referred to is considered as the point of juxtaposition or immediate proximity—that it is receptive of accession or gain—that something is being added to it.’ And this is the direct opposite of what Dr. Kennedy has said. I leave it to all real scholars to decide between us.

Again, it is an error of principle to distinguish subordinate sentences, (*El. Gr.* p. 120, § 19,) as (1) substantival: (2) adverbial: (3) adjectival. All subordinate sentences are of the nature of secondary predications, and, therefore, they are adverbial, as I have shown in my Greek Grammar and elsewhere. In general, I do not share in Dr. Kennedy’s admiration of his doctrine of compound sentences, by the help of which he hopes to teach me something in Latin syntax. He will not be surprised to hear that I prefer my own views on the subject; and that I may make some return for the syntactical instruction which he so kindly offers to me, I will venture to refer him to my *Complete Greek Grammar*, to my *Constructionis Græcæ Præcepta* (*editio altera*, 1850), or to the *New Cratylus*, second Edition, Book III, Chap. V. When he says (*Crit. Ex.* p. 87,) in reference to my phrase *prædicata primaria*, that he prefers

the term *copulative verb* for the class of words by which these predicates are joined to the subject, and that ‘possibly, if he (Dr. K.) had been a drinker of the Rhine, the Elbe, or the Oder, I might not have disdained to adopt so convenient an appellation,’ I must observe, in the first place, that this designation is implied in my Greek Grammar, rule 416, *Constr. Pr.* 29; and that, as my boys begin Greek and Latin together, the explanations of one Grammar are sufficient for both. But I must also repel the insinuation that I am a bigoted and blind follower of the Germans, and can see nothing good in the works of my own countrymen. Dr. Kennedy will find, in the *New Cratylus*, § 30, that I have furnished him and others, to whom German literature is not so well known as it is to me, with emphatic cautions against a preference of German to English scholarship; and as I can claim to have made more real discoveries in the higher departments of pure philology than all the Germans put together, I decline to be placed by Dr. Kennedy among their humble and prejudiced admirers. I do not wish to attach any value to my opinion on the subject, but it is a fact that I have often mentioned Dr. Kennedy’s name among those of a few Englishmen whose Greek scholarship I consider equal, if not superior, to that of any German professors. And if I do not think so highly of his attainments in general philology, I merely accuse him ‘of neglecting much that he might easily have known.’ (*Gr. Gr. Pref.* p. vi.)

But, lastly, it is the gravest error of principle which a Latin grammarian could commit, to believe that *fuero* and *fuero*, *amavero* and *amaverim*, are different tenses, and that one belongs to the indicative, the other to the subjunctive mood. As Dr. Kennedy has confidently joined issue with me on this point, and as one of my main objects in compiling a new Latin Grammar was to set this matter right, I shall bestow a few words on the nature of the error in which he still persists.

There are two forms of error in regard to *fuero*, *fuero*. The old Eton Grammar makes them past and future tenses of the subjunctive mood—a great cause of perplexity to me in my younger days. Dr. Kennedy, following most of the modern Grammars, not only maintains that one is *perfect* and the other *future*, but increases the confusion by placing the latter in the *indicative*, the former in the *subjunctive* mood. To say nothing of philology, what can be more hopeless than to teach Latin out of a Grammar which makes *fuero* both *past* and *future*, both

subjunctive and *indicative*? If we fall back upon the highest kind of philology, we come to the conclusion that the distinction of moods has no etymological existence, but belongs to the classification of methodical syntax (*N. Crat.* § 388). Thus the Greek conjunctive and optative stand related only as future and aorist. With regard to the tenses, I, of course, add Dr. Kennedy's tense system (§ 179) to his grave errors of principle. The true theory is that which I accepted many years ago, and which is due to J. L. Burnouf; and if Dr. Kennedy will read what I have said about it in the *N. Crat.* § 372, he may perhaps doubt the wisdom of declaring (*Crit. Exam.* p. 108), 'in this arrangement of tenses I can see neither true theory nor practical value.' If, as I believe, there are only two classes of tenses, and three tenses in each class, there is no room for a *futurum exactum* in the indicative mood, for the *Greek paulo post futurum* is a peculiar and occasional addition to the *passive voice*. (*Gr. Gr.* 435.) That the Latin tense system is imperfect, and must be explained by the Greek verb, will be recognised by all men who have any philology in their composition. For example, the Romans, at a very early period, ceased to distinguish between the aorist in -s, and the true perfect. In the same way, they early lost their proper future in -so or -sim (as *faxo* or *faxim*), and either substituted a compound in -bo, or transferred to the indicative a modification of the present subjunctive, which, in spite of Dr. Kennedy's *dictum*, was always a kind of future. In Homeric Greek, the present conjunctive plays the part of the future. (*Hom. II.* i. 262.) In Latin the corresponding tense serves both offices, and without any inconsistency, for the original meaning is unaffected by the use. I do not forget, as Dr. Kennedy is so obliging as to inform me that I do (*Crit. Exam.* p. 51), that 'the powers of the Latin subjunctive include not only those of the Greek conjunctive, but also those of the optative, with several uses of the indicative.' As I have in every case stated the corresponding use of the Greek moods, I can only regard Dr. Kennedy's imputation of forgetfulness as an instance of the 'hasty confidence,' with which he charges to me in the preceding page. But I will tell him, what I really believe he does not know, wherein the possibility of such an interchange consists. As far as the *protasis* or conditional sentence is concerned, the Latin language, as compared with the Greek, is indeed inconsistent, but it causes no difficulty. When, however, we pass to the *apodosis*, and have to use the Latin subjunctive

as a potential without *ἄν*, especially when the *protasis* is not expressed, then we find that scholars, like Dr. Kennedy, whose philological education has been neglected, are liable to confuse between a subjunctive and an indicative usage, between a consequential and a categorical assertion. The Latin tense system cannot be understood without reference to the Greek; and this is one reason among many why boys should begin both languages together. If we take the Greek as our criterion, we shall see that in the *protasis*, *ἐὰν λαμβάνῃς* may be rendered either by *si accipias* or *si accipies*, with a future in the *apodosis*; that *εἰ λαμβάνοις* must be rendered by the present subjunctive, with a similar form in the *apodosis*; that *si acceperis* will render *εἰ λάβοις* or *ἐὰν λαβῇς*, according as the *apodosis* is the present or perfect subjunctive in the one case, or the future indicative in the other; and that the Greek imperfect and aorist indicative in the *protasis*, with the same tenses and *ἄν* in the *apodosis*, must be rendered by the imperfect and pluperfect of the Latin subjunctive. When, therefore, Dr. Kennedy ‘marvels (p. 58) by what process of reasoning’ I ‘make the mood subjunctive in the following’—*si plane occidimus, ego omnibus meis exitio fuero*;—*si pergis, abiero*—*tu invita mulieres, ego accivero pueros*;—he must also marvel why the Greeks put the optative with *ἄν*, in the *apodosis*, to an indicative in the *protasis*, as: *εἰ μὲν οὖν τὰδ’ ἔστιν ἐν θεοῖς φίλα, παθόντες ἄν ζυγγοῖμεν ἡμαρτηκότες*—for he will not deny that the Latin perfect subjunctive in the *apodosis* is equivalent to the Greek optative aorist with *ἄν*. But he has found a decisive proof that there is an indicative *futurum exactum* in the following lines of Horace, *Carm.* iv. 10:—

Inspersata tuæ cum veniet pluma superbiæ,
Et, quæ nunc humeris involtant *deciderint* comæ, “
Nunc et qui color est puniceæ flore prior rosæ
Mutatus Ligurinum in faciem *verterit* hispidam,
Dices heu quoties te in speculo *videris* alterum, &c.

‘Will you,’ he asks, ‘venture to assert that *deciderint* and *verterit*, coupled as they are to *veniet*, and dependent on the same *cum*, are nevertheless in the subjunctive mood?’ Most certainly I will venture to do so, and I shall not think my attempt either audacious or difficult. The construction here is equivalent to that of *ὅταν* with the subjunctive in the *protasis*, followed by the future indicative in the *apodosis*. If this *protasis* in Greek demands a change of tense, this is effected by using the present subjunctive for a mere future, like *veniet*, and the aorist subjunc-

tive for an antecedent condition, like that implied in *deciderint*. Now the Romans have no machinery for the purpose except that which is exhibited in the lines of Horace; and as *cum veniet*, *dices*, or *cum deciderint et verterit*, *dices*, are equally allowable forms of the conditional proposition, I find no difficulty in their combination with one and the same *apodosis*. But I certainly do ‘marvel’ that Dr. Kennedy should insist upon the fact that *veniet* and *deciderint* are jointly ‘dependent on the same *cum*,’ as a proof that the verbs are in the same mood. If this were valid reasoning, it would prove the identity of the indicative and optative in such a passage as Plato, *Resp.* vi. p. 493 c: εἰ τις κατεμάνθανε, καταμαθὼν δὲ . . . καλέσειε καὶ τρέποιτο κ. τ. λ. where several optatives are dependent on the same εἰ as the indicative; and it would also prove the identity of the future and subjunctive in the following passage of Thucydides, where they are dependent on the same μή (ii. 72): δεδιέναι δὲ . . . μὴ . . . οὐκ ἐπιτρέψωσιν ἢ . . . πειράσουσι καταλυβεῖν. These Greek examples are sufficient for the argument; but what will Dr. Kennedy say to the following passage from Cicero? (*de Fin.* ii. 19, § 61)—‘Num P. Decius, *quum* se *devoveret* et equo admisso in mediam aciem Latinorum *irruebat*, aliquid de voluptatibus suis cogitabat?’ Will he venture to assert that *devoveret* is indicative because it is ‘coupled to *irruebat* and dependent on the same *quum*?’ The argument from the deponent and passive verbs proves nothing. For when the passive participle is predicated directly, the only verb which we have to deal with is the copula. I have never denied that *ero* was indicative; but I have on one occasion shown that a periphrase may be equivalent to a tense of the subjunctive mood: thus *dicam* and *dicere instituo* are used in the same construction (Cicero, *Phil.* i. 1; *Muren.* 1); and the indicative stands in the *apodosis* to the subjunctive, when the future in *rus* is used. (Cf. Liv. xxxviii. 47, with Cic. *Verr.* iii. 52). And even in *obliquâ interrogatione* we have *factus fuerat* with a subjunctive. (Liv. xli. 24.) And this brings me to Dr. Kennedy’s etymology of *fuero*, which appears to me eminently puerile. He tells us that *fuero* must be indicative, and different from *fuerim*, which is subjunctive, because the former involves *ero*, and the latter includes *sim*. But he always writes *fuerint* = *fuesint* in his *futurum exactum*, as well as in his perfect subjunctive. Therefore, by his own showing, there is an insuperable objection to our considering the tense in which *fuerint* occurs as belonging at all to the indicative mood. As far as the etymology is concerned, I enter-

tain no doubt that every one whose mind has been turned to scientific philological reasoning will agree with me in the conclusion that *ero* itself is only another form of *sim*, and that *ero* was originally *esiem* (*New Cratylus*, § 398.) The oscillation in the quantity of *fuerimus*, &c., explains the difference between *erimus*, which is shortened in its penultima, and *sīmus*, which has lost its initial syllable. It is a mere assumption of Dr. Kennedy's that there is any difference of usage between the forms in *-ro* and *-rim*. The choice of one form or the other is a mere matter of euphony. And if *si quis bona carmina condiderit tu missus abibis* must be admitted to exhibit a subjunctive in the *protasis*, what will be said of the similar construction in the well-known lines of Ennius?—

*O Tite, si quid ego adjuero curamve levasso,
Ecquid erit pretiū?*

An examination of verbs like *memini*, *novi*, *odi*, which are used as present-perfects, will show that their corresponding perfect subjunctives cannot be indicative futures also. If authority will add anything, Priscian expressly says (*Lib. viii. c. 8, p. 388, Krehl*): “*quamvis Græci futurum quoque diviserunt in quibusdam verbis in futurum infinitum, ut τῶψομαι, et paulo post futurum, quod et Atticum dicunt, τετῶψομαι. Melius tamen Romani consideratâ futuri ratione, quæ omnino incerta est, simplici in eo voce utuntur, nec finiunt spatium futuri.*” And on the whole I throw back to Dr. Kennedy the charge of ‘hasty confidence,’ and ‘one-sided reasoning,’ (p. 50,) and denounce his *futurum exactum* as a grave error of principle, which, pervading as it does his whole Grammar, would alone prevent me from recommending the book to any one who wishes to learn Latin.

Of errors of detail Dr. Kennedy furnishes us with an abundant harvest. But I must content myself with selecting a few examples of his misinformation or inaccuracy. In the sixth edition of his Grammar he continues to exhibit the plural of *Deus*, as if *Dei* and *Deis* were the most usual forms of the *nominative and dative and ablative*. He tells me in his pamphlet, p. 32, that he hopes to improve this. I hope he will, if he ever comes to a seventh edition;* but for a scholar, who has under-

* That Dr. Kennedy's final improvement may be complete, I will tell him why I omit the forms *dii*, *diis*. There is equal MS. authority for *di*, *dii*, *dis*, *diis*: see Drakenboreh on Liv. v. 14, § 4; Cort. on Sallust, *Cat.* 1, 2. But when *ii* is pronounced as one syllable, it is expressed by *i* only, as appears

taken to lecture me on the 'very minute care and pains' demanded by the compilation of a good School Grammar (p. 127), it is not very creditable to have revised six editions of such a work without discovering the true declension of *Deus*! Dr. Kennedy's pupils have been taught by six republications of the error that *quisquam* is regularly declined through its genders and numbers (p. 22). I have thought it necessary to tell my readers that *quisquam* has neither feminine nor plural. The masculine is sometimes used with feminine nouns; but, excepting one doubtful passage in *Plautus*, I have never heard that any feminine form has been discovered. And yet this careful and immaculate grammarian writes *quisquam*, *quæquam*, *quidquam*, without saying a word about *quicquam*, which is much more common. He has also told his boys through six editions that *antes* means 'the outer pillars' (p. 146), making a confusion of this word with *antæ*, and quite preventing his pupils from understanding what is meant by a temple *in antis*. Besides, even *antæ* does not mean 'outer pillars,' but the ends of the side walls projecting so as to form a porch. The statement (p. 108) that *meā, tuā, &c.*, in the construction with *refert* and *interest*, are ablatives, is 'a time-honoured inaccuracy,' of which I claim the correction (*N. Crat.* § 240, and elsewhere); to say that they agree with *re* understood is a mere mistake, as the noun is expressed in *refert*=*refertur*.

With regard to Dr. Kennedy's errors of excess and defect, it will be sufficient to mention that while he amasses examples without end, of constructions which might be ranged under one head, and introduces a great deal of matter which belongs to the dictionary or the commentary rather than to the grammar, which should teach principles rather than collect details, he gives his readers no information on those points on which they most want it—the proper distinctions of the indefinite pronouns, and the varying usage of those adverbs and conjunctions, which they must find in the first pages of their Latin reading, and must use in the earliest of their Latin compositions.

by the proper form of the genitives of nouns in *ius*, according to the well-known canon of Bentley (see also Lachmann on Lucret. v. 1006); and as the double *i* in this case is merely a fancy of the grammarians for the purpose of representing the long syllables *dī, dīs*, contracted from *dei, deīs* (Priscian, vii. 4, § 15, p. 300, Krehl), it should be extruded from critical editions of the classical authors.

I may now, I think, maintain that I have vindicated, so far as Dr. Kennedy is concerned, every sentence in my preface which seemed necessary as an explanation of my reasons for undertaking a new Latin Grammar. It would have been easy to multiply examples of his defects, but I do not wish to dwell longer than is necessary on this disagreeable duty.

With regard to the defence of my own Grammar from the charges brought against it, I have already said that it rests with me to treat this part of the subject as briefly as I please. Had Dr. Kennedy's strictures appeared anonymously in any journal, however respectable, I should not have thought it necessary to notice his criticisms. I have been an author long enough to appreciate the truth of Bentley's axiom, that 'no man was ever written out of reputation, but by himself.' As, however, the *Critical Examination* appears in the form of a letter to me, I am bound in courtesy to state to the learned writer why I decline to reply *in extenso* to his elaborate *diatribe*.

(1.) The value of Dr. Kennedy's opinions is neutralized by the candid avowal that his criticism is provoked by my virtual censure of his work. He has been induced to write by a wish to show that my 'harsh judgment is not merited, or if merited, that the writer of the *Complete Latin Grammar* is not entitled to pronounce it.' (p. 126.) Self-defence, therefore, conducted by means of recrimination, or the intentional and eager disparagement of his censor, is the moving cause of the *Critical Examination* to which I have been subjected. Criticism of this nature defeats its object, and needs no reply.

(2.) The main feature of Dr. Kennedy's *Critical Examination* may be described as a constant opposition of his opinion to mine on questions of philology. In any case, it would seem to be superfluous to meet this by a reiteration of my own sentiments.

‘Who shall decide, when *Doctors* disagree?’

But, unfortunately, I cannot recognize my critic as a *Doctor* in Philology. I am perfectly aware that he is a very eminent *Greek scholar*. Perhaps he is unequalled in his intimate acquaintance with the phraseology of the dramatists. But classical philology in the 19th century demands something more than unrivalled skill in teaching the composition of Greek Iambic Trimeters. It involves a wide and varied range of reading in history, mythology, archæology, and philosophy, which does not exhibit itself in the published writings of Dr. Kennedy. Above

all, I have no reason to believe that he has ever made even a first beginning in those higher philological studies to which I have devoted more than twenty of the best years of my life. On the contrary, Dr. Kennedy's publications, from his *Progressive Grammar* down to the *Critical Examination* now before me, evince an ignorance of the first principles of scientific etymology, which ought to be, but is not, very extraordinary. To take an instance or two, what shall we say of the scholar who informs us that '*interest* is probably corrupted from *in re est*!' (*Progressive Grammar, transl. of Syntax*, p. 36.) Is not comparative philology utterly ignored by a grammarian who places *Αἶας* by the side of *Ajax*, in order to prove by a solitary example that *sigma* may be changed into *x*? (*Progr. Gr., Accidence and Etym.* p. 3.) To say nothing of the fact that the crude form of *Αἶας* is *Αἶαντ*—has Dr. Kennedy to be told that *Ajax* is the Latin form of *Αἶακος*, and that the Romans, not being careful as to the *αἰὼν Αἰακιδᾶν* (*Soph. Aj.* 645), which they adopted, took the grandfather instead of the grandson? Then he objects to the obvious and certain derivation of *op-timus* from *ob*, because he does not know the original meaning of the preposition, for which I may refer him to the *New Crat.*, § 172, where I have proved its identity with *ἐπὶ* and *ἀμφὶ*. He also objects to the absence of a comparative *opterior*. He might as well object to the derivation of *de-terior* from *de*, because there is no superlative *de-timus*, but only a secondary form, *deterimus*, and of *an-terior* from *an-te*, because there is no superlative at all. The fact is, that as *ob*, 'upon' or 'around,' already expresses relative altitude, it cannot have a comparative, though it may have a superlative. Thus in English we say *top-most*, but not *top-more*; *up-most* or *upper-most*, not *upper-more*. With these and any number of similar proofs of Dr. Kennedy's neglect of scientific etymology, I can have no hope of a satisfactory discussion with him. And I must content myself with expressing my belief that if Dr. Kennedy had properly studied the subject on which he has undertaken to write, he would, with his undoubted abilities, have produced a book very different from his *Latin Grammar*, or, at all events, would have appreciated the validity of my combinations, and would have abstained from captious and dictatorial remarks, which rather betray a wish to find fault, than a consciousness of superior knowledge.

(3.) If I were ever so anxious on other accounts to follow Dr. Kennedy step by step through his prolix criticisms, I should

be deterred by the consideration that I am at this moment engaged in the republication of my *Varronianus*, which will oblige me to enter upon a full examination of all the questions at issue between my reviewer and myself. With my scanty leisure, I find it difficult enough to do my work *once*; and with all my respect for Dr. Kennedy, I cannot anticipate the developments, which will appear in their proper place, and for which my Latin Grammar is especially intended as an elementary preparation. There he will find that ‘endless philological talk,’ of which he writes so contemptuously (pp. 47, 127, &c.), but without which, it seems, he cannot effect any thing in Latin grammar.

For these reasons, I shall dismiss the *critical examination* of my own Grammar with a very few observations.

In the first place, I admit and deplore that there are some heinous errors of the press. Although they are not very numerous, though they are all so obvious that any teacher or even diligent learner might discover them and correct them with the pen, I have had occasion to complain to the publisher of the carelessness with which the printers have altered the types after the proofs had finally left my hands. But with regard to these errors of the press, and other oversights not attributable to the printer, I can safely promise that they will all be corrected long before my book reaches the ‘sixth edition.’

The title, *A Complete Latin Grammar for the Use of Learners*, has been made the subject of several observations by my reviewer. The whole title is suggested by that of my Greek Grammar, and the epithet ‘complete’ must be understood according to the definition given in the preface to the other elementary work. I there remarked (p. viii.), ‘In calling this a *complete* Greek Grammar, I need hardly say, that I did not intend to put it forth as containing all that ought to be written about the Greek language. The fact that it is introductory to a much larger work by the same author, is sufficient to show that it merely professes to include all that ought to be comprised in an elementary work for the use of younger students.’ Every one of these remarks is applicable to the Latin Grammar; and in both cases, I would wish to distinguish between the *extent* of a work and its *completeness*. In what I have omitted, and in what I have inserted, I have been guided solely by the results of my practical experience. But in designing my Grammar for *learners*, I have not prepared it with a view to those precocious

infants, who, like Dr. Kennedy (*Crit. Exam.* p. 13), begin to learn Latin before they are five years old. In my opinion, boys should not begin to learn Latin until they begin to learn Greek; and I think that from the tenth to the twelfth year, according to the capacity of the boy, should be the period of initiation. In Latin learning, as in other things, we may safely use the caution of Archidamus: *σπεύδοντες σχολαίτερον ἂν παύσαισθε*. And I think that half the time spent in learning Latin with the aid of Greek will produce more real effect than if we commenced the solitary study of Latin at the early age which Dr. Kennedy recommends, and carried it on even for ten years. In general, I would increase the proportion of classical and mathematical training as a boy advances, and would bestow the earlier years of his school training on those general subjects which in the old days of grammar schools were never learned at all. But in any case, I would teach no grammar except according to the soundest rules of scientific philology; and as the ultimate object of classical training is to give the *many* a habit of methodically arranging their thoughts, and to make the *few* who are capable of it, good philologers in the highest and fullest sense of the term, I can acquiesce in no Grammar, even for beginners, if it does not contain glimpses of the true system of linguistic philosophy to which the latter will finally be brought, or if it misleads even the humblest student, by teaching him facts which are unsustained by evidence, and principles which are contrary to the inductions of modern science.

On the whole, I must declare that Dr. Kennedy's *Critical Examination* has not convinced me, and I think it will not convince my readers, either that a new Latin Grammar was not required, or that I have failed to supply the want. And I deliberately repeat the last words of my preface—that whatever may be the faults of my book (and I should have discovered its imperfections without the aid of Dr. Kennedy), it presents for the first time a rational arrangement of the facts, and corrects for the first time many time-honoured inaccuracies. It is a matter of opinion how much an elementary Grammar ought to contain; I have been anxious to reduce mine to the smallest possible compass; and if I have made any omissions, they are such as the competent teacher can supply orally, or from other sources. But I am certain that the book contains no superfluities; and others have recognised my success in calling the learner's attention to a true explanation of the real difficulties of

the language. Substantives, adjectives, pronouns, and verbs are all discussed in a rational order, and the student is told what he most wants to know about them. The same is the case in the explanations of undeclinable words, and in the whole syntax, especially with regard to the *gerundia* and *gerundiva*, which, as I believe, were never explained with even approximate accuracy in any former Latin Grammar. Lastly, I am convinced that I have for the first time exhibited the true principles of Latin prosody; and my *Appendices*, with much that is old, contain a great deal of information which will be found in no other book. Four months' use in this school, where the under masters are men of ability and judgment, convinces me that I have at last got a manual by which it is possible to teach Latin; and I feel confident that those who follow my example will arrive at the same result.

And here I trust that this discussion will terminate. Dr. Kennedy's friends must feel that he has gained nothing by provoking it. But whatever he or they may think, the learned public will constitute our only tribunal of appeal. And with regard to the public verdict, I cannot resist the impression that he has been ill-advised in inviting this comparison of our Latin Grammars; for he was already, to a considerable extent, in possession of the field. And if the rival publication which he has so emphatically advertised should ever interfere with the use of his book, it will be found that the course which he has adopted has contributed to shorten the period of probation which every new work must undergo. In the controversy which he has forced upon me, I have been obliged to exhibit some of his errors and deficiencies; and if this has caused him or his friends any annoyance or mortification, I am truly sorry for the necessity which he has imposed upon me: for though I am not personally acquainted with him, I entertain towards the learned master of Shrewsbury School a feeling of sincere respect and good-will; and I trust that he will live long enough to forget the incident which has disturbed his equanimity, even though he should discover in the mean time that his Latin Grammar is conclusively superseded by some work which presents in a simple and systematic form the newest discoveries of linguistic science.

J. W. D.

*King Edward's School, Bury St. Edmunds,
24th May, 1852.*



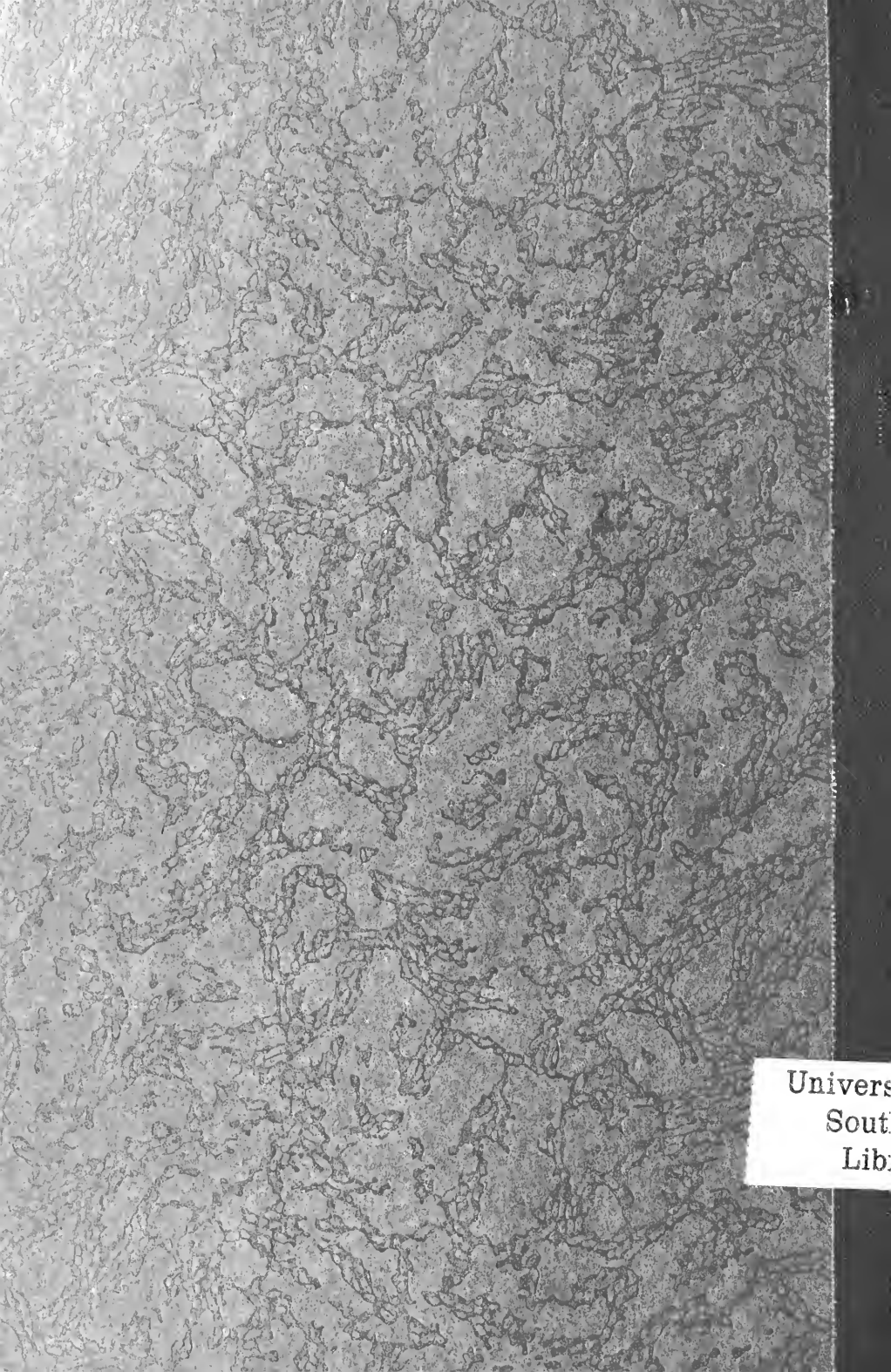
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